Statement under Section 5A (3)b of the Utilities Act 2000

1. Section 5A (3)(a) of the Utilities Act 2000 requires the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority ("the Authority") to carry out impact assessments on important proposals having any of the effects set out in Section 5A(2) (a) to (e) of the Act.

2. Section 5A (3)(b) of the Act requires the Authority to publish a statement setting out its reasons for thinking that it is unnecessary for it to carry out an assessment.

3. The amendment (set out in the Schedule to the modification proposal notice under section 11 of the Electricity Act 1989 which was published on 26 April 2004) proposes a minor change to the definition of "relevant supplier and shipper" in the distribution licence granted or treated as granted to Aquila Networks plc under section 6(1)(c) of the Electricity Act 1989 in order to make it consistent with the distribution licence granted or treated as granted to East Midlands Electricity Distribution plc.

4. The Authority considers it unnecessary to carry out an impact assessment since the implementation of the amendment will not have any of the effects set out in Section 5A (2)(a) to (e) of the Act.

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Dated 26 April 2004

Signed on behalf of the Authority by Martin Crouch, Director, Distribution

Duly Authorised in that behalf on behalf of the Gas and Electricity Markets Authority